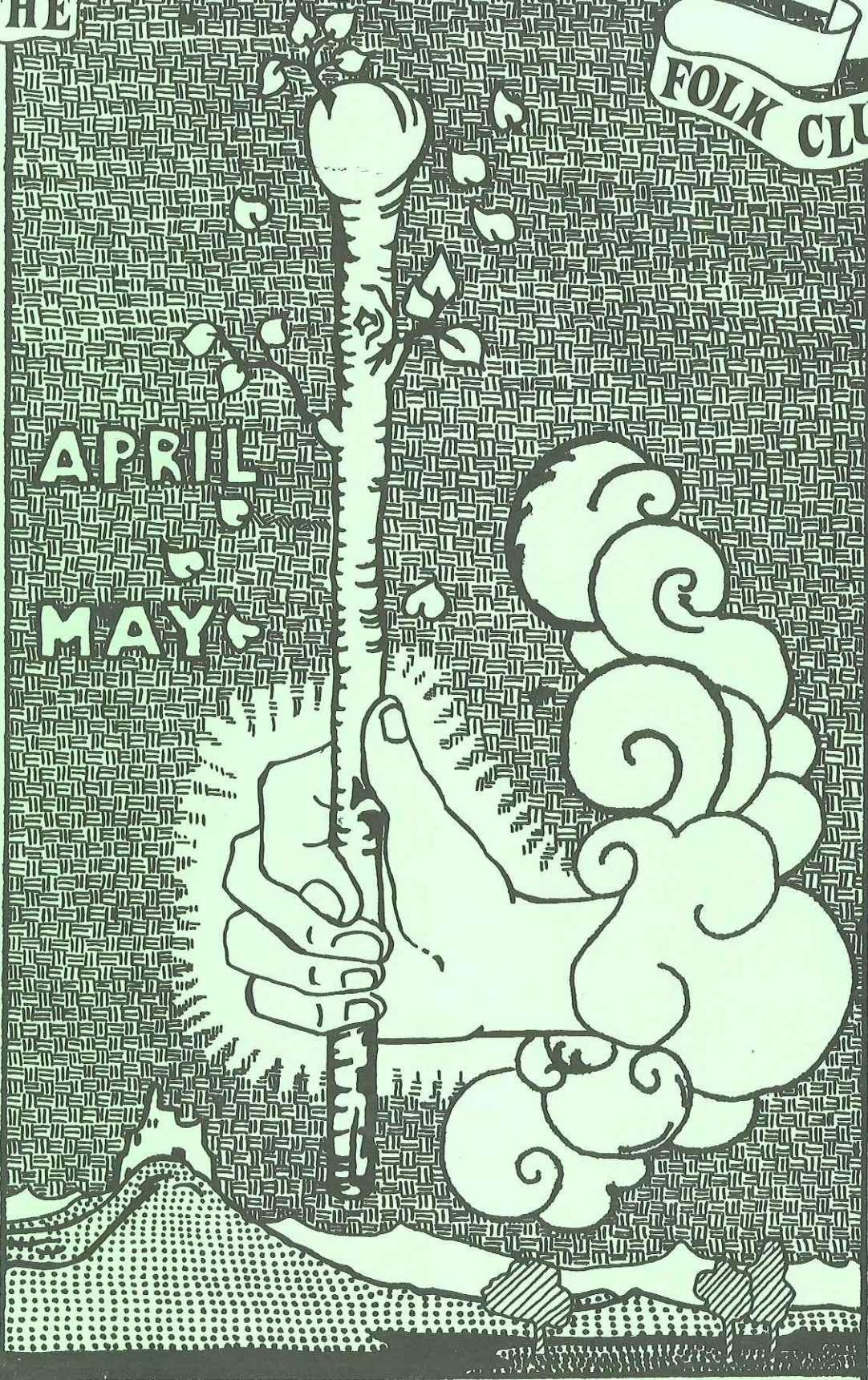


THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF
FOLK CLUBS



APRIL
MAY

ACE of WANDS.

WESTER

35p

Page 2 Comment:

HERE we are again with another issue of the Federation Newsletter. I hope it won't reach you much after 1st April, but we've had a lot of problems in collecting the dates. And in answer to the inevitable criticism as to why we didn't go to press without the dates, would you have bought the magazine with only 4 sets of club dates as at the deadline?

SO ONCE again I must make my first comment to the club organisers—please send or telephone your dates to us in time for the next issue. This means NOT LATER THAN 1st May for the next issue. It's best if you 'phone them directly to Phil Capper on 0772 684537, as it is Phil who compiles the dates pages.

ENOUGH of this and on to the contents of this issue. Simon Jones continues his article on Canadian Folk Music with one covering the artists and the records. Ian Wells follows up his appearance on BBC's Open Air programme with information on what progress (if any) has been made since then.

IN ADDITION, we have all our regular features including Club of the Month, which this issue is Rochdale. As well as all our usual reviews and of course the Club Calendar.

CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES, ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE IS 28th APRIL



OUT & ABOUT	3	LETTERS	12	LIVE REVIEW	19
CLUB NEWS	4	CLUB DATES (April) ..	14	CLOG WEEKEND	20
CLUB OF THE MONTH	5	CLUB DATES (May)	15	RECORD REVIEWS ...	22
CANADIAN FOLK	6	EFDSS: What Next	16	CLUBS LIST	27
BROADFOLK	9	BOOK REVIEW	17		
OPEN AIR & AFTER	11	RISE UP OLD HORSE ...	18		

IF YOU find that this issue all the contributors are the familiar names, it's because I'm not receiving articles from anyone else. Ian Wells or Simon Jones would be very happy if their articles weren't needed to fill most of the issue each time. All articles I receive will be given consideration to be included. If you don't feel up to a full article what about a review? Perhaps there's a recent LP you have a strong view on, and we haven't published a review. Or even, why not just write a letter putting forward your view on a topical subject; this could be quite brief. If you would like further information on the type of article, length etc., please get in touch with myself on Wigan 833293.

FINALLY I mustn't forget to thank all those without whom ... Irene Allen for her superb cover; Angela, Margaret & Janet for typing; Phil Capper for the Club Calendar; Ian for distribution; Bernie for much help & support. Many thanks also to anyone who has contributed in any way to this issue.

HELP! I urgently need typists to assist in producing the magazine. Ideally, someone with access to an electric typewriter or word processor. Contact me if you can help.

Nigel Firth
EDITOR



'Folk on Two'	BBC Radio 2	330m (90.2 VHF)	Wednesday 7.00-8.30pm
'Lancashire Drift' (Monthly, second Sunday)	BBC R/Lancashire	351m (96.4 VHF)	Sunday 11.05-11.35am repeat - Tuesday 6.35-7.05pm
'Folk Scene'	BBC R/Merseyside	202m (95.8 VHF)	Tuesday 6.30-7.00pm repeat - Sunday 8.30-9.00pm
'Folk Like Us'	BBC R/Manchester	206m (95.1 VHF)	Sunday 5.15-6.15pm repeat - Monday 7.00-8.00pm

At the time of writing, there are no folk music programmes on any of our independent local radio stations. Write at once (contact Ian Wells if you're not sure where to write) to their respective Programmes Controller and protest. DO IT NOW and I may have progress to report next issue

THE NATIONAL Folk Music Festival takes place at the School of Agriculture, Sutton Bonington, near Loughborough from April 10th to 12th. Guests range from Fred Jordan and Lizzie Higgins to Pyewackett, Red Shift and the Kipper Family. Prices start at around £2.50 for a session rising to £15.50 for the weekend and accommodation is also available at an extra charge. For further information send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to John Heydon, 5, Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2JF

THERE IS an Anglo-French music Day on June 27th at Ripponden near Halifax featuring Beau Temps Sur La Provence, Red Shift & Chris Coe. Beau Temps, who comprise of Jean Blanchard (pipes, fiddle & vocals), Evelyne Giradoux (hurdy-gurdy), and Michel Pichon (melodeon), present a stunning interpretation of the living instrumental and vocal traditions of Central France. They are also experts on French dance tradition and often combine concert with a 'Lyonnais Bal' - complete with full and fluent instructions on how to do the dances. Attendance is strictly limited to 100 and tickets £3.50 (day) or £2.50 (evening) are available from Pete Coe 103, Oldham Road, Ripponden, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorks, HX6 4EB (Tel: 0422) 822569. Enclose SAE; cheques to Back Shift Music.

Heald Green Folk Dance Club have several events arranged for the coming year including a callers evening on April 2nd, and a holiday party on June 25th. Further details from Geoffrey Frost on 061 437 1539

SUNDAY April 26th sees the 5th Farnham Folk Day at the Maltings, Farnham, Surrey. Artists featured include The Oyster Band, Diok Gaughan, Demdo Konte & Jausa Kuyateh, Copper Family, Easy Club and Old Swan Band. Tickets are £9 from FMS, PO Box 73, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7UN. Enclose SAE; cheques to F.M.S. For more details 'phone FMS on 0252 724638.

QUEENS HEAD Ladies Morris are holding a Weekend of Dance around the town of Burnley. It takes place on May 9th/10th and among teams taking part are Ripley Morris Men, Ripley Green Garter, West Lothians Morris Men, Harestone Morris & Carlisle Sword. More information from Linda & Arthur on Padiham 75884 or Sue, Accrington 383406.

THIS YEAR'S Whitby Folk Week Hiring Fair will take place on August 22nd & 23rd from 1pm to 5pm. The basic idea is to bring together newer performers and Folk Club organisers for their mutual benefit, and the service comes free of charge.

ROY HARPER, Pyewackett and Maxi & Mitch along with Mike Silver and the Buffalo Bluegrass Band are amongst the varied performers assembled for the 3rd Skinnners' Bottom Festival to be held at the Wheal Briton Caravan Park near Truro in Cornwall from June 26th to 28th. Weekend tickets are £12 and full details can be obtained from 7, Union Place, Truro, Cornwall. Tel 0872 41155.

FOLK ROOTS magazine is to release a compilation album of tracks by artists featured in its pages including Billy Bragg, Copper Family, Ted Hawkins, Oyster Band, 3 Mustaphas 3, June Tabor and Kathryn Tickell. The release date is April 23rd, it will be called 'Square Roots' and subscribers to the magazine will be able to obtain copies by mail order at a special price.

HF HOLIDAYS do a Country Dancing Holiday for £145 including full board and tuition. For a brochure telephone 01 203 6411. More information on other holidays from Joanna Whitehall, Bishop Associates, 34, Rose St., London WC2E 9EX

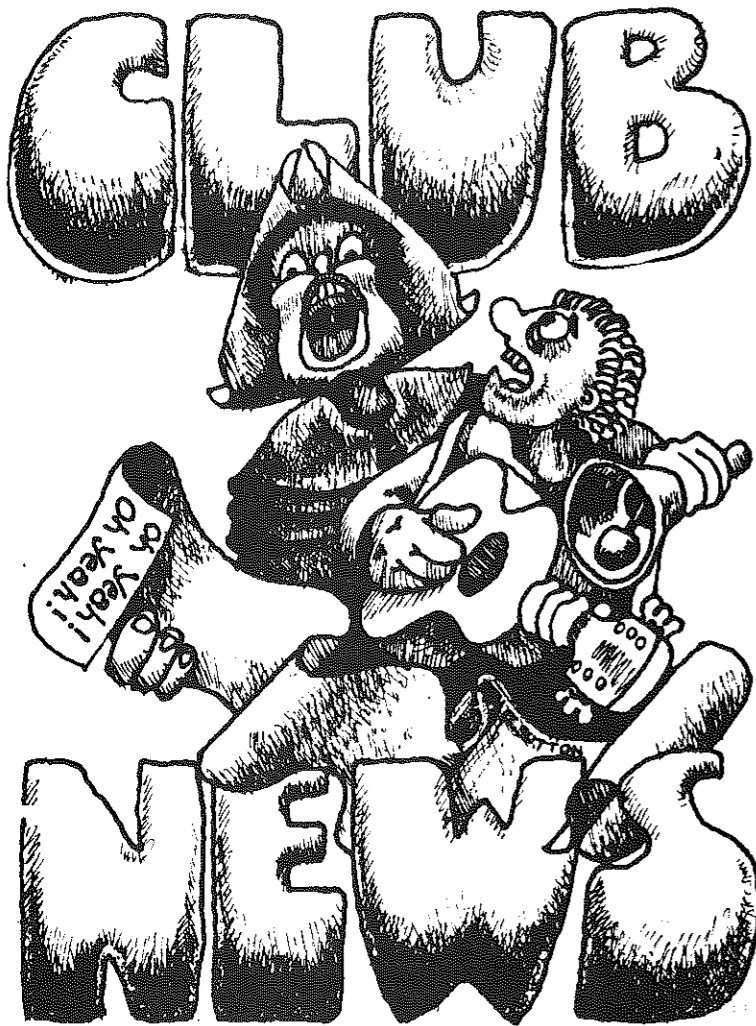
HASTINGS International Folk Festival takes place on 22-25 May 1987. For more information please contact Jim Barnaville on Hastings (0424) 426162.

BEVERLEY Folk Festival takes place on June 19th-21st with their usual varied and interesting guest list. More information will be found in the advert on the back page, or contact the Festival Office on 037 781 662 at any time.

THE FIFTEENTH Poynton Easter Folk Festival opens on Good Friday (17th April) until Sunday. Just a small selection from the guest lists: Richard Garsinger, Johnny Collins, Caught on the Hop (Who? - ED.), Bilbo Baggins Barn Dance Band, Strawhead, Knowe O' Deill Band. Season Tickets are £10 (Child £4) Day tickets £5 (Child £2). More info from (SAE) Festival Organiser, Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton, Stockport, SK12 1RB or Tel: 0625 875555 (mornings)

CHESTER FOLK FESTIVAL is being held over Spring Bank Holiday Weekend at the Morris Dancer, Kelsall, Chester. It runs from Friday May 22nd to the Monday May 25th. Among the many artists on the bill are Boys of the Lough, Maxi & Mitch, Gregson & Collister, Foxes Bark Band, Ian Woods, Chester City Morrismen & Guest Morris sides and many others. As always there are a wide range of events to suit all tastes including special events for children. More information from 0244 350502.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR OF THE FEDERATION.	EDITORIAL ADDRESS: 118, Bolton Road, Aspull, Wigan, WN2 1XF	THE EDITOR ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS CLAIMED TO BE ORIGINAL, OR FOR ANY INACCURACIES HEREIN.
--	---	--



A FAIRLY short Club News again I'm afraid, partly due to time constraints, but mainly because I've very little of note to be able to report.

AS ALWAYS, there have been a few changes of organiser or telephone number since last issue; please check always with the current issue. Also for those who haven't noticed, since I took over the reins again I have a new address, and by now the forwarding on will have been discontinued.

I can't remember whether the change has been made or not, but DOREEN RICKART tells me she is still the organiser of the TRITON Folk Club in Liverpool. Her telephone no. is 051 227 3911 X448 (work). Their residents are now Jenny Wright and Ages Apart.

EVERY two months or so, Burnley Folk Club move their folk club from the upstairs room to downstairs in the bar. They are usually able to provide 10-15 singers for this event, although they do find they have to chose their material to suit the setting. (ie Ballads are out for that night).

I THINK one of the most impressive lists of residents I've seen in a long time must belong to the Magazine Folk Club in Wallasey. The full list is: Dave Locke, Ranting Sleazos, Frank & Helen McCall, Jack Coutts, Mary-Ann Wise, Arthur Garnett. Anyone beat that?

SOME ADVANCE dates, covering the summer months. They are listed in no particular order.

JUNE :

- 14th, Jez Lowe & Jake Walton
Llandudno
- 2nd, Singers' Night, Mawdesley
- 7th, Doonan Family, Poynton
- 14th, Ewan McCall/Peggy Seeger,
Poynton
- 21st, Richard Grainger, Llandudno
- 10th, Bram Taylor, Kirkham
- 17th, Jolly Jack, Kirkham
- 21st, Sarabande, Poynton
- 24th, Roger Wilson, Kirkham
- 28th, Maire Ne Chatshasaigh,
Poynton

JULY :

- 1st, Noise of Minstrels, Kirkham
- 5th, Steve Turner, Llandudno
- 8th, John & Karen Singleton,
Kirkham
- 26th, Bram Taylor, Llandudno

DON'T FORGET that Hindley Folk Club have their Songwriting Contest on May 19th, 8pm prompt start. As we went to press, I gather they have sent out more information than ever this year. As a result there will have to be an elimination to reduce the numbers to a reasonable level on the night.

POYNTON CEILIDHS:

- April 11th -
Bilbo Baggins Barn Dance Band + Abalon
- May 9th - Band to be arranged
- June 14th -

WATCH OUT for news of the AGM; a venue is urgently being sought and a likely date is mid-May. All clubs will be circulated with details in good time; we hope for a record turnout this time!

CLUB OF THE MONTH:

ROCHDALE HERITAGE Folk Club

The idea of a new Folk Club for Rochdale was conceived by yours truly (namely, Liz Andrews and Chrissy Waldron) We visualised a club which would be democratically organised and one which would expand to include our own concerts and festivals.

Firstly we approached friends and acquaintances with our ideas and within six weeks, had discovered the ideal venue for our club and formed a six member committee with its own constitution. We had also been commissioned to write two articles a week for our local papers and had designed and printed a number of leaflets to hand. We had the audacity to approach the inimitable Mr. Stanley Accrington to be our opening guest. The brave Stan took up the challenge and opened our club on the 14th September 1986. We had opened our own club and could hardly believe it; what would the future hold for us?

Our next move was to provide some financial backing. We wrote to many local business men but to no avail. Just as we were despairing, one of our committee had the brilliant idea of approaching the Co-Op. After all they are synonymous with Rochdale. To our delight within a couple of weeks we were adopted by the Norwest Co-Op members relations committee. The only obligation being that all our future members must be lifetime members of the society. This has not created any problems to date, and we have a present membership of fifteen.

The format of the club is very democratic. We have a six member committee with three officials, secretary, treasurer and chairperson. Rochdale's Heritage Folk Club is held every Sunday at the Spread Eagle Cheetham St., Rochdale. Thanks to the vast support of our friends we have a guest list that extends beyond Easter 1987. The Sunday evenings are co-hosted by two our residents, the multi-talented Pat Kearney, who used to be part of the Ramblers in the sixties, and Chrissy Waldron, who was front man with the New Bracken Band in 1983 when they won

the Edinburgh Folk Festival. We keep a very open mind to the type of music in the club and actively encourage young talent. One of our greatest successes to date was the debut of a new band Red Hot Shivers. Who were spotted busking in the town. They proved to be very talented and their props had to be seen to be believed; their young lead singer has the most amazing "blues" voice.

Our success has come so quickly that we have innumerable people to thank too many to mention in this short article. However just a mention for our Landlords who have been great and the local press, local singers, Mike Billington of radio Manchester, Don Frame of the Manchester Evening News, Phil Robinson of Radio Cavell Oldham etc. But most of all to our audience for without you we haven't got a club. Because of your constant support we have been able to achieve one of our burning ambitions, which is to stage our first concert.

Kieran Halpin, the International Irish star appeared at the Midway Hotel, Castleton, Rochdale on the 11th February 1987. We also have plans in the pipeline concerning a festival. So watch out for our advertising!

We now feel that we have brought folk music back to the heart of Rochdale. It is pleasant to know that another successful Folk Club has been accepted in the North West of England. Who said folk music is dead?

Liz Andrews
& Chrissy Waldron.

SALLY BARKER

Winner of
SONGSEARCH '86

3 track E.P.

"THE FINAL STRAW"

available by mail order from:

THE STABLE LABEL

Hill Farm

Misterton

Nr. Lutterworth

Leicestershire LE17 4LD

£1.60 incl. p & p

BOOKINGS 061 8295 305



Canadian Folk: Artists & Vinyl

Still in the frozen north, SIMON JONES reports to base again.

"The only thing worse than Australian bands are Canadian bands, an insufferably boorish race of musicians and not a good looking one in the bunch." Bunny Matthews (critic) Wavelength, 1984

"Canadian musicians? Er...Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Rush and...?" Anon (friend of the author's), Feb 1987

"There's just so much over here waiting to be discovered." Steve Edge (CITR disc jockey), Aug 1986

Three diametrically opposing views, one just sheer bias, the second based on a lack of information, the final from a convert. All to do with Canadian music. Most certainly there are poor bands in Canada, but then there are anywhere in the world. We're concerned with the broad sweep of music which is bracketed however misguidedly "folk" and the music which issues from the land of maple syrup. It's the scale which is beyond most of us as I tried to convey in my last article on the mechanics behind their roots scene. It's quite possible for a performer to be a big noise in Toronto, but quite unknown on the west coast. Size in terms of distance plays a part too. Our performers do not (if ever) have to fly between folk gigs. But because everything is so large and high profile the roots scene itself is much more high powered, no skulking in pubs and clubs. The music is the music of concert venues and theatres, maybe not quite stadia, but certainly more up-market than ours. This in turn leads to a healthy blurring of boundaries and very few people look on a folk gig as anything other than music, thus artists cross styles effortlessly incorporating technique and craft from many musical forms into their sets. Bruce Cockburn, just about the biggest Canadian folkie for instance, thinks nothing of doing club work with an acoustic guitar one night, a political rally the next, and following it up with an 8 piece concert band blowing away half of Calgary. It's all music, or as Billy Joel put it "It's all rock'n'roll to me." Same philosophy just different terms.

So what I'm going to try to do is present a brief selection of albums and acts worth following up, that will give you a taste of what passes for roots music over the pond. Bear in mind that it's written from my biased viewpoint so I hope you'll allow me that.

Should you want a brief taster of the Canadian scene then you should get hold of a copy of "Vancouver Folk Music Festival July 1980" on Aural Tradition ATR 102. It's now a little dated but is still unsurpassed as far as showing the whole sweep of style goes. Familiar to us all are the Tannahill Weavers who belt through Bagpipe-led reels and the accapella chants of Sweet Honey In The Rock as much here a feminist as a gospel group. But you'll also get female singer/songwriters like Connie Kaldor and Ferron (who'd just cut a new album as I left Vancouver) and bluegrass picking from Byra Berline, as well as stompin' Quebec fiddle tunes courtesy of Le Reve Du Diable. (Available as is all Aural Tradition material from Festival Records, 3271 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3M6, ask for their excellent catalogue.)

Bruce Cockburn is a kind of Billy Bragg/Richard Thompson figure, just about the most high profile product to come out of Canada. Well known and a strong enough writer to regularly get his albums in Folk Roots, Cockburn also has enough power to get his records a U.K. licence. His latest in a long line came out last autumn on the Brum based Revolver label. "World of Wonders" Rev LP 73 is not for the traddies among you, but for those who like music with clout, that shifts and that incorporates oriental as well as rock influences, here's the guy to dig out. Gruff, blunt, straightforward and effective Cockburn is too belligerent to be ignored.

Murray McLaughlin on the other hand is a bit slower, more paced, less angry and dare one say it more laid back than Cockburn, more like Allan Taylor than Billy Bragg. They both record for the same CBS subsidiary True North back in Canada, but McLaughlin is more introspective in his writing. Indeed he's specifically recorded an album of what he calls modern Canadian folk songs, about characters he

met in his rambling Woody Guthrie period. Despite no current UK outlet, McLaughlin vinyl does turn up in our cheapo bins, a recent mooch around Manchester turned up two at 90p each. However try Canadisc (see address later) for a contact point.

The Rogers family (as in Stan Rogers) have provided some excellent Canadian music. Stan sadly passed away recently but little brother Garnet Rogers is shaping up nicely to fill the family tradition. Having cut a duo album with Archie Fisher and then a solo album, it's his latest "Outside Track", Snow Goose SGS 1113 which has him finally getting into his stride. A guitarist, fiddler and owner of a big warm voice, he cruises effortlessly through McTell, Caddick and a classic "American Jerusalem" a bleak, true picture of New York. He also writes his own tunes which move with a lick (Canadisc should have this).

Out of all the women performers in Canada and there are many, two stick out and both are as different as chalk and cheese. K.D. Lang is a young woman who takes country music as her byword and puts it in an 80s setting. With her band, The Reclines, she comes over as a female, country Pogue, totally infectious. Her debut album should be out by the time you read this titled "Angel with a Lariat" on Sire. Margret Christl is a folk singer, no argument there. She sings contemporary songs by the likes of Bogle, and Canadian writers as well as interpreting Canadian versions of trad. ballads. On her latest gently electrified "Looking Towards Home" Logan's Line WRC 1, there's Canadian versions of the "Grey Cock", "Knight and the Shepherd's Daughter" and "Lord Franklin". A pure voice but not twee, she's probably the most accessible artist listed so far to British folkies.

A couple of electric folk bands worth digging up are McGinty, a bunch of expatriate Irish who spice up their celtic leanings with country songs, blues and the Beatles. Well, why not? It's all good stuff, especially as they take all their material at a hell

for leather pace. On the album "Breaking Tradition" Stepping Stone STP 002, they do just that with more session men than band members. No harm in that mind you when you get a gutsy rendition of "Gypsy Laddie". More familiar over here purely because of exposure are Figgy Duff whose latest vinyl "Before the Tempest" Celtic Music CM 028 continues to plug in the Newfoundland tradition. The trouble with Figgy Duff is that they're hot, more spit than polish and a brash drummer. But their records are easy to pick up.



'Spirit of the West'

But the best of the bunch were mentioned in the last dispatch, Spirit of the West. Two albums old and now a four piece with the recent addition of a bass player, these lads really are the business. From a variety of musical backgrounds including punk rock and classical these days, they're settling down into a mature band who beef up their sociological anthems with jigs/reels from Irish stock. They're due in Scotland later this year and hope to get a few club gigs around that time. Their most complete album to date is the excellent "Tripping Upstairs" Stony Plain SPL 1098, well worth five gold stars for "Homelands" alone, a tale of displaced Indians backed neatly with two Scottish tunes. Recently a new tape arrived at Jones' Towers with some of their new songs on and they're getting even better. Is this possible? **ip8**

Canada (p.7)

No sightings, but rumours say they're hot...

Stephen Fearing, a Vancouver singer/writer who pens some interesting, introspective songs as well as reels. Barking Kettle. A kind of Newfoundland Silly Wizzard, drawing on the largely Celtic stock of their home island, they've got a fine sounding tape, but I've yet to track them down.

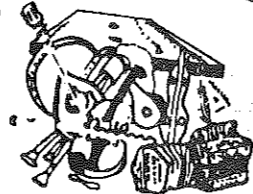
Indian ethnic music, well they were the first people there. I never came across much Indian music but would like to have heard some more. Boot records via Canadisc do a fine line in ethnic music though. "Montagnais Songs of Yesterday and Today" Boot SQN 101, a mixture of traditional and modern Indian songs in a variety of musical styles is probably best. Fascinating stuff the ritual music of North American Indians, if only it wasn't so obscure.

Where Can I Get This Stuff? All these albums and more are stocked by a crusading guy named Paul Commeau, who is just itching to send Canadian music to you through his Canadisc company, P.O. Box 142, Saulnierville, Nova Scotia, Canada, BOW 220. Go on, drop him a line, you won't be disappointed, I promise.

There is no way that any hack can do justice to a nation's music in two brief articles, but Canada, a taste of home across the ocean, struggling for identity in the shadow of the U.S. needs a bit more exposure, deserves more exposure. Just because the name of this magazine is the North West Newsletter is no excuse for us to remain blinkered to music from outside our own region or even country. As for me, Lord knows where I'll get to this year, but should I happen across Ukrainian hongo music, naturally I'll let you know.

A P.S....Steve Edge thanks all those of you who sent him stuff and says he's been playing it on the radio. He's moved to 2982, W. 3rd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6K 1N1.

HOBGOBLIN music



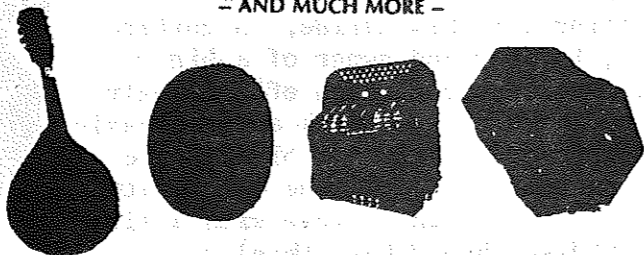
This year Hobgoblin is 10 years old and still going strong. Our prices are keen, our experience shows, and we've more stock than ever before.

MELODEONS & ACCORDIONS by Hohner, Castagnari, Gremlin, Galotta, Paolo Soprani

MANDOLINS & BOUZOUKIS by Fylde, Kentucky, Dark Orchard, Flatiron, Ozark, Musikalia

CONCERTINAS from £45 to £695
BODHRANS from £24 to £68

HARPS, IRISH PIPES, SMALLPIPER, BANJOS, FLUTES, BOMBARDES, FIDDLES, HAMMERED DULCIMERS, RECORDERS
- AND MUCH MORE -



Send now for our free full colour folk instrument catalogue, listing around 500 instruments, plus accessories and music books
SEND S.A.E. TO HOBGOBLIN MUSIC, 17 NORTHGATE PARADE, CRAWLEY, W. SUSSEX RH10 2DT
(0293) 515858

BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENTS

BURNLEY
MECHANICALS
And Other Musical Services

Whippersnapper



Plus
CHRIS COE & JOHN ADAMS

saturday April 18th at 8pm

Admission £2.75 Concessions £2.00

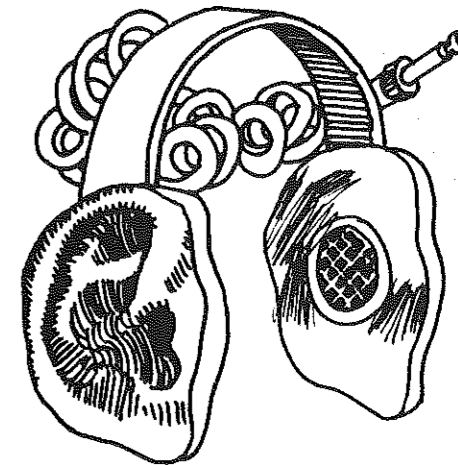
DETAILS - Tel 0282 30055
Burnley Mechanics Box Office, Manchester Rd.

BROADFOLK

Once again it's Channel 4 who have provided the television content, even if they had to disguise it as documentary or drama and schedule much of it for insomniacs (or video recorders). First was the documentary about the American musicologist Hovey who has spent a lifetime re-inventing and arranging Burns. This was graced by Jean Redpath, who also featured in a R4 piece that dramatised one of his love affairs. C4 slipped out Ulster TV's award winning documentary 'The Steel Chest, Nail in the Boot, and the Barking Dog'. This was about the Belfast shipyard, and the title comes from nicknames that would be well understood in the Liverpool dockland communities. It was mostly oral history but included one superb song by a young girl walking along the quayside, and the background music played gentle games with the tune that non-folkies will only know from it's use in the film 'A Taste of Honey' (The Big Ship Sails on the Alley-alley-oh).

However, better scheduled was the 7:84 Theatre production 'There is a Happy Land', which integrated Ossian into the production. This three part dramatised history of the Gaelic people scored highly on several points. It was a filmed record of their touring production in the Highlands and Islands and featured some superb scenery. The quality of the singing and the playing was excellent. My only quibble was that they faded down some of the Gaelic song to talk across it - not to give translations, which were sub-titled as necessary, but to give other information.

BBC's Did You See? ignored it, but did talk about the Ulster shipyard documentary in spite of not having anyone who really knew anything about it.



What about BBC TV itself? Well, the Open Air 'Soapbox' on televised folk music is dealt with elsewhere by ubiquitous Wells himself, but I'm reliably informed that Keith Hancock got some bookings from his 'blink and you missed me' appearance. BBC daytime found a Scottish TV documentary on a collector of childrens' street songs and games. Surprisingly, St. David's Day gave us Ar Log with massed male voices in the Albert Hall, and St. Pat's two programmes about the new crossover relationship of the Chieftains with Belfast's best known classical flautist, James Galway. That even got them a Radio Times cover! Any bets on what's happening on St George's day? Strawhead with the LSO? Straws with the massed WI and Jerusalem? The Yetties sing Vaughan Williams?

Actually, the latter pair do have something in common - the Dorset poet Barnes. RVW set Barnes' best known poem (Linden Lea) and now the Yetties have taken him up. However, it was Tim Laycock who provided the voice and concertina for Radio 4's centenary tribute to the polymath who made a vain effort to maintain dialect for serious writing. The unpredictable John Peel - who has just re-issued a June Tabor set among all the garage bands from his many sessions now available on vinyl - somehow persuaded the Radio 1 management to let him loose for four full hours of protest songs. The first session of Rebel Yell was called Ramblers, Gamblers, and Railroad Bums and ran from before Guthrie to Dylan, but was best on

BROADFOLK (from p.9)

black protest. He played 'Strange Fruit', and commented that Billy Holiday was not so much singing protest songs as living out the need for protest. Part two handles the late 60's and 70's under the title Hippies, Dropouts, and more Bums.

Finally, the quirky Local Network, which brings local radio to Radio 4, took a look at Entertainment. The folk clubs got praised twice, once for the range of music played there, and once as a nursery for comedians. Fortunately, nobody mentioned Phil Cool.

Folkear

AMERICAN OLD TIME BANJO LESSONS.

CLAWHAMMER &
TWO-FINGER PICKING
STYLES

Sara Grey
21 Knowsley Road
Ormskirk
Lancashire L39 4RB

tel. Ormskirk 77818 (evening)

OPEN AIR & AFTER...

Regular readers of this organ will know of my obsession with broadcast folk music - or rather it's lack, especially on TV. Open Air gave me a chance to get at some of the decision makers and I've found out one or two interesting things. The first thing I've learnt is that my old battle cry of 'let them know you're not happy' is the right approach.

The BBC executive put up on Open Air to answer my charges made this point: 'Our mailbag has fewer letters from folk fans than from jazz fans'. Message received and understood? But who do you write to?

BBC TV effectively has production and distribution departments - we need to convince both. So write to Alan Yentob (Head, Music and Arts Unit) and Dennis Marks (Editor, Music Features, Music and Arts Unit), who are responsible for making programmes. Then to Grahaeme MacDonald, Controller, BBC2, who would put them out.

Since it takes anything up to two years from programme idea to transmission, also ask him for repeats of your favourite previous programmes (eg The Other Music) and for a folk music season, to match the jazz, blues, rock opera, ballet (you name it) seasons. But please write a personal letter - petitions tend to get ignored. The address for all of these is BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ. Also write to our new Regional Head of Broadcasting, Hugh Williams, at New Broadcasting House, Oxford Road, Manchester, M60 1SJ. Remind him that his local radio stations are supporting us, while his TV region is not. Why aren't we seeing coverage of Fylde and Kendal festivals?

Following the Open Air appearance, I've made some useful contacts and I can tell you that there are some people on our side inside the BBC, but they need to be backed up by pressure from the audience - that's you.

Ask some awkward questions. Given the number of excellent festivals in every corner of the country, why aren't we seeing any highlight programmes? Why is jazz going to be given a magazine programme this year while our own ethnic music is still ignored?

I know, you're all too soaked in the oral tradition to write. Well, the BBC maintains a duty officer all day and evening to take phone calls, and circulates the summary at a high level next day. So when you see other peoples' roots music, or even classical, ring 01 743 8000, ask for the duty officer and ask, politely, why it isn't British folk. You can also do that with Channel 4 on 01 631 4444.

Please don't forget to praise what little does appear. That includes Folk on 2, Andy Kershaw, and our friendly local radio stations. (BBC national radio has a duty officer as well: 01 580 4468).

Now you've written your letters, what next? First, read their reply carefully. Write back to correct any factual errors, to ask for explanations for any negative decisions mentioned, and to demand definite information if none is given. Now take out your diary, select a page between four and eight months ahead, and make a note: Write folk/TV letters again. They can ride out one rush of letters, obviously produced by a particular event or article. What they can't ignore is a consistent flow of letters.

Cyril Tawney said the executive on Open Air looked like 'a rat trapped in a corner'. Let's generate a high pressure hose of letters and phone calls and flush out the decision makers.

Ian Wells

11



13th YEAR

Chester Folk Festival

MAY 22 23 24 25 1987
(Spring Bank Holiday Weekend)
at THE MORRIS DANCER, KELSALL, CHESTER

Boys of the Lough, Maxi and Mitch, Bernard Wrigley, Amos and Rocks, Jez Lowe and Jake Walton
Childrens Events - Concerts - Ceilidh's etc
CRAFT MARKET AND DISPLAYS

Free Camping on Main Site for W/End, Ticket Holders only.
£14.50 (After April 20 £16.00) Children 10 - 16yrs half price,
children under 10 free

All Enquiries - S.A.E. please, to
11, Canadian Avenue, Hoole, Chester,
Tel: 0244 350502 or 097883 4820



Cornwall '87 Folk Festival

Wadebridge
August 29-30-31

Guests booked so far
Alex Atterson * Bob Cann
Lar Cann * Chucklefoot
Robin Dransfield * The Doonan Family
Garstang Morris * John James
Dolores Keane * Vic Legg
Life and Times * Lunch Break
Donal Maguire * Janet Russell
Swan Arcade * & others

Season Ticket Prices before May 31 - £13.50 after £15.00

Children under 12-Free 12-16 Half Price Reductions for students/OAPs/UB40s
Tickets and information (S.A.E.) from: Sue Millington, 145 Hillside Park, Bodmin, PL31 2NQ (0208) 6074

10

SUPPORTED BY NORTH CORNWALL ARTS

Letters to The Editor...

COMPLIMENTS (WELL MOSTLY)

I bought your Newsletter recently. Most impressive, nice to see so many familiar older names (sorry not to see some any more - good old M.S.G!). I've sent my cheque for a subscription to keep me up to date on the issues. I was sorry to realise that I'd actually bought a copy with only a few days to run so most of the dates were past. This seems a bad time to sell this particular issue! I don't think it's good for the image. Comment?

The reviews seemed very honest opinions. i.e. not all glowing reports with some constructive criticisms. (can't spell with this pen) very readable, thank you. Most of the Ads were good too tho' some of the tiny print does need screwed up eyes to gain all the facts. The Club dates and Fed Page - excellent.

Maybe you would be so good to enlighten me on a couple of points please.

By taking the magazine does one automatically become a member?
"The Members Clubs" listed does not include all the Wirral Folk Venues - is this because the missing ones are not members? I don't run a club myself anymore, but for the sake of the clubs I do visit, how could I encourage them to become members?

On a very personal note, could you please tell me what has happened to Nic Jones? My two sons Nicholas and Nigel, were named 16 and 13 years ago respectively, after the two outside men of the Halliard, viz, Nic Jones & Nigel Patterson.

I dropped out of the Folk Scene about 6 yrs ago and all I've heard about Nic is that he was involved in a serious road accident. I got no reply last time I contacted his wife. I've lost track of Nigel completely - anything would be appreciated on either of those tremendous people.

Please compliment your offices for a splendid publication, lets hope you get the support to sustain it.

Best wishes,

Stan Jardine,
Birkenhead.

P.S. During the last half year I have begun to get more involved in our Local

12

folk scene (more acceptable to family without the long distance gigs). I like your small ads. offer, could this be used to trace songs, words, music and the like?

The Editor Replies:

The clubs decide when to sell the magazine; I would judge its better to sell a largely out of date magazine than not to sell one at all. We don't as a rule attract many individual members, but it is open to anyone to join if they so wish - write to Kath Holden for more details.

Can anyone help Stan with the latest information on Nic Jones & Nigel Patterson, Write to me please and I'll pass your letters on. Finally, yes small ads could be used to trace songs, words music etc.

.... AND COMPLAINTS

After ten years in this game I know very well that with every one of my records I send out for review I am putting my neck on the chopping block. Most of the time I merely bite my tongue and put u with some of the prattish remarks which are made - and which quite often do a lot of damage to a small company operating in a specialist field because comments become part of the general folklore. I cannot let one of Nigel Firth's more inane comments go without a reply, though.

Of one of my recent releases 'Rolling Home' by Iain MacGillivray Fellside FE053 he simply states "If I have a complaint it is that only five tracks/ side is poorish value for the price of an LP these days". Now, just what does that mean? Does it mean that if he came across a Classical LP he would consider it an unbelievable rip-off because it only has one track on it split between two sides? Perhaps he would rather have an LP consisting of 80 thirty second songs. Has it never occured to him that playing time comes into it somewhere? Does he anywhere point out that one track is over five minutes long and that five tracks are over four minutes? He sets himself up as a reviewer - an expert - but does he know anything vinyl disc production? Does he know that the optimum quality length for the wide dynamic range of

CHAIRMAN'S RANT by Ian Wells

First, EFDSS. The adjourned AGM and EGM at Coventry on April 4th will be confronted with three important motions. One, to support the Library, should be passed without trouble. Another, to make future meetings open to proxy voting, will need support. The third, instructing the NEC to start disposing of CSharp House, will cause ructions. The London Dance Tendency are bussing up supporters to Coventry in an attempt to consolidate their December coup. Their champions, the Friends of the House, are still not properly organised and have failed to raise even their own tiny estimate of the cash needed. The future of our only national folk music organisation must not be jeopardised by the selfish wishes of London dancers to have their dance floor maintained at our cost.

Second, a request. Janet Baker is looking for musical items in the folk style relating to Women's Suffrage (that's Votes for Women for any MCP readers). She would include music hall, union ballads, and political squibs on the topic. Formal archives seem to be unhelpful - the male view of history?. The suffrage movement was less middle class in the north west than elsewhere so if there is surviving folk material, this may be the place to look. Manchester had an important place in the history of suffrage - are there any memories around? Send your finds to 34 Priory Road, Gillingham, Kent. Finally, the Fed. Details of the AGM will be circulated direct to organisers but this is a call for thought. We are committed to a hard look at the aims and objectives. Please jot down your ideas and send them to me: we'll summarise views and circulate the summary plus any hard proposals for changes prior to the AGM. (Sorry, no proxy votes in our friendly little federation, but we could run to an EGM if necessary.) I also intend to invite the relevant EFDSS district secretaries or PRO's to attend as observers.

Letters (p.12)

acoustic music (which is not as compressed as rock music - which explains why rock albums seem to sound louder) is 20 - 20 minutes per side? The particular LP in question has a playing time of 21.24 minutes on one side and 20.02 on the other. You can get much more on - we did on 'Flash Company' (FE050), but you do have to start comprising the quality. I would rather go for quality than quantity any day of the week. All I ask is that 'criticism' is both informed and meaningful.

Paul Adams, Fellside Records.

The Editor Replies:

I meant by any comment that a record that had five songs per side, none of which seemed especially long, did seem poorish value. Out of interest, I checked my own collection of folk LP's and a random sample of 10 revealed eight LP's with six or more tracks per side, including these with long ballads on. If Paul is offended I'm sorry, but I'll have to let readers judge whether 20 minutes per side is good value or not.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Every issue we endeavour to publish as wide a selection from our postbag as space will permit. We do of course reserve the right to shorten or print extracts from long or multi-topic letters where this can be done without altering the writers meaning.

Have you got a point of view you would like to offer on either of the above letters, or indeed on any relevant topic? Then why don't you write in?

Write to:

The Editor,
N.W.F.F.C. Newsletter,
118, Bolton Road,
Aspull,
WIGAN, WN2 1XF

Club Dates

APRIL

Wednesday	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
WHITEHAVEN HOW CROFT FOLK AT THE TUTE WHITE SWAN FOLK AT THE NEST	t.b.a. singers' night PEGG/FULLERTON*	KRITH HANCOCK HOBSON & LEES STEVE TURNER	DAVE GOULDER TONIGHT AT NOON TOM McCONVILLE	RICHARD GRAINGER PETE MORTON ROD SHEARMAN	local singers THE KNOWE O'DEIL singers' night
Thursday	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
DARWEN POYNTON WIGAN MAGAZINE BURNLEY	singers' night singaround singaround singers' night singaround	club closed singaround singaround singers' night singaround	singers' night singaround singaround singers' night singaround	club closed singaround singaround BREAD & ROSES singaround	singers' night singaround singaround singers' night singaround
Friday	3rd	10th	17th	24th	
BEK POTTERIES NORTHWICH PORKIES CUT ABOVE BLACKBURN	singers' night singers' night club closed	singers' night ANDY CAVEN PAUL MILNES	singers' night BOWMANER club closed	singers' night t.b.a. guest t.b.a.	
Saturday	4th	11th	18th	25th	
BURY BREWERY SOUTHPORT POYNTON Miscellaneous	G. HIGGINBOTTOM* CAPERCILLE *	singers' night BILBO BAGGINS BDB Bothy Ceili *	Ceili Folk Festival *	BREAD & ROSES Horwich Folk Day	
Sunday	5th	12th	19th	26th	
CROWN BOTHY EAGLE & CHILD LEIGH POYNTON RAVE ON WIDNES LLANDUDNO ROCHDALE ASHTON	PADDY TUNNEY MINOR BIRDS MARIE LITTLE singers' night singaround	singers' night singers' night CAUGHT ON THE HOP singers' night singaround	singers' night club closed Easter Festival* singers' night singaround	HOLME VALLEY * THORN PRELUDE singers' night singaround	
Monday	6th	13th	20th	27th	
HORWICH PRESTON POYNTON BREWERY TRITON	singers' night STRAWHEAD singaround	singers' night singers/players singaround	singers' night RODGER/GARTSIDE* singaround	singers' night singers/players singaround	
Tuesday	7th	14th	21st	28th	
MAWDESLEY HINDLEY MAGHULL BLACKPOOL	singers' night TONY NYLAND singers' night DR. BODD'S OHB *	club closed singers' night TONIGHT AT NOON DAVE DELMAGE	club closed ROB MALANEY singers' night Irish session	club closed singers' night 5th Birthday Do J & D MOLLOY *	

Residents

BURY - various
BOHY - Clive Pownceby, Pete Rimmer, Paul Reid
EAGLE & CHILD - Caught On The Hop, Quartz, Bric-a-Brac
LEIGH - Trevor & Joan Hunt, Calico
RAVE ON - Volunteers
LLANDUDNO - Stuart King, The Rambling Boys
HORWICH - Joyce Riding, Tom Ferber
POYNTON (Mon.) - Rick Harrop and friends
(Tues.) - Vic Hassal and friends
TRITON - Jenny Wright, Ages Apart
BREWERY (Mon.) - Mountain Road
HINDLEY - Penrygate, Pocheen
MAGHULL - hundreds of 'em
BLACKPOOL - John Gibney (resident heckler)

WHITEHAVEN - Knotted Cord
FOLK AT THE TUTE - Phil Capper, Ian Brandwood, Mike Evans
WHITE SWAN - Geoff Higginbottom, John O'Hagan, Dave & Helen Howard, Pete Morton, Andy & Alison Whittaker, Hollerin' Pot
FOLK AT THE NEST - Northern Comfort, Phil Clayton
MAWDESLEY - Derek Gifford
WIGAN - Joan Blackburn
MAGAZINE - various
BEK - various
NORTHWICH - Sean & Sandy Boyle, Graham Sowerby, Tony Howard, Sara Burden & Ian Sherwood, Jamie Anderson

Club Dates

MAY

Friday	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
BEK POTTERIES NORTHWICH PORKIES CUT ABOVE BLACKBURN	singers' night singers' night club closed	singers' night KRITH HANCOCK BULLOCK SMITHY	singers' night NICK DOW club closed	singers' night t.b.a. ALLAN TAYLOR	singers' night singers' night club closed
Saturday	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
BURY BREWERY SOUTHPORT POYNTON Miscellaneous	guest t.b.a.	guest t.b.a. Bothy Ceili *	GREY & ELLIS *	GORDON TYRALL	THE KNOWE O'DEIL
Sunday	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
CROWN BOTHY EAGLE & CHILD LEIGH POYNTON RAVE ON WIDNES LLANDUDNO ROCHDALE ASHTON	singers' night singers' night GREGSON/COLLISTER	COSMOTHEKA EASY CLUB OYSTER BAND	singers' night club closed ROBIN WILLIAMSON	club closed BRAM TAYLOR guest t.b.a. DAVE & EIRIAN	DAVE BURLAND CALLENIG BOB WILLIAMSON
Monday	4th	11th	18th	25th	June 1st
HORWICH PRESTON POYNTON BREWERY TRITON	singers' night WILSON FAMILY singaround	singers' night singers/players singaround	SCOLD'S BRIDLE DIST. GENTLEFOLK* singaround	singers' night singers/players singaround	singers' night BLUE WATER FOLK singaround
Tuesday	5th	12th	19th	26th	June 2nd
MAWDESLEY HINDLEY MAGHULL BLACKPOOL	THE WILSONS NORTHERN COMFORT singers' night DIST. GENTLEFOLK* ROB MALANEY	club closed singers' night EDDIE WALKER ROB MALANEY	club closed Song Contest * singers' night singaround	club closed singers' night HOBSON & LEES THREE IN A ROW	singers' night DEEP ELLUM
Wednesday	6th	13th	20th	27th	June 3rd
WHITEHAVEN HOW CROFT FOLK AT THE TUTE WHITE SWAN FOLK AT THE NEST	SHEP WOOLLEY EASY CLUB COE & ADAMS *	EDDIE WALKER ROGER WESTBROOK KIPPER FAMILY	local singers JOHNNY COPPIN KATHRYN TICKELL	ALLAN TAYLOR singers' night singers' night	JIM COUZA NICK DOW
Thursday	7th	14th	21st	28th	June 4th
DARWEN POYNTON WIGAN MAGAZINE BURNLEY	club closed singaround singaround singers' night singaround	JUST CHRIS singaround singaround singers' night singaround	club closed singaround singaround VOLUNTEERS singaround	singers' night singaround singaround singers' night singaround	club closed singaround singaround singers' night singaround

Notes

All Mondays - Brewery - MOUNTAIN ROAD plus guests
April 1st - White Swan - BOB PEGG & JULIE FULLERTON
3rd - Bury - CAPERCILLE at Derby Hall
4th - Bury - GEOFF HIGGINBOTTOM
7th - Blackpool - DR. BODD'S OLD HAT BAND
10th - Bothy Ceili - PANDEMONIUM BAND - St. John's Hall
18th - Poynton - POYNTON FOLK FESTIVAL - see ad.
20th - Preston - "BIG" PETE RODGER & IAN GARTSIDE

25th - Horwich - HORWICH TOWN FOLK DAY - see ad.
26th - Bothy - HOLME VALLEY TRADITION
28th - Blackpool - JOAN & DAVE MOLLOY
May 5th - Blackpool - DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK
6th - White Swan - CHRIS COE & JOHN ADAMS
16th - Bury - SARA GREY & ELLIE ELLIS
18th - Preston - DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK
19th - Hindley - 1987 SONGWRITING CONTEST

TALKING POINT - EFDSS: What next

The Way I See It

FOLLOWING on Ian's article 'EFDSS: Whither Away', Alan Barber, the North-West Area representative on the NEC of the EFDSS, gives us his view of the way forward.

I attended my first NEC meeting, concerned by the amount being to the Bank in interest, but returned still full of optimism. Jim Lloyd, our Director-designate was full of bright ideas for the future. Whilst a lot of money had been spent on fire precautions at Cecil Sharp House, the 'House' was at last paying its way. The General Purposes and Finance Committee were so confident in the budget for the next twelve months that they advised there was no need to increase subscriptions.

However

Bad weather hit the festivals; the rains washed away a nice surplus and left a rather nasty deficit.

The Sports Council noted we were budgeting for a surplus and consequently reduced their grant; they also prefer to finance projects rather than admin.

The Folk Shop failed to make the anticipated profit; I don't know why. I DO know the best turnover comes from new products: I've waited about eighteen months after records have been released before they available from the shop.

Jim Lloyd took the option of not continuing his Directorship after the first year.

It was unfortunate, but perhaps inevitable that Jim Lloyd's paper 'The Way Ahead' and news of the poor financial state of EFDSS reached members at the same time.

If the Emergency Appeal succeeds, we will get over the present crisis. What next? It will not have been worthwhile if we just struggle on to the next crisis.

The EFDSS needs a stable income. It is no good relying on grants, or the profits from Festivals that may prove a washout. Our income has to come from subscriptions. None of us wants to see subscription rates rising ever faster. We need more members, but we need them NOW. It will be at least the next AGM in November before the changes suggested in the 'Way Ahead' can be put to the membership; a long while after that before they can be fully implemented.

We need to encourage EFDSS members locally; give worthwhile concessions to members at Clubs and Dances. We are a small minority. If we can significantly increase our Membership we can negotiate concessions for EFDSS members at 'Folk' events run by other organisations. Southport Arts Centre, for example, often has 'Folk' events.

To bring us all right up to date:

The AGM last November virtually tied the hands of the NEC.

At a 'Extraordinary General Meeting' to be held at Coventry on April 4th, the NEC hope that the membership will agree to the sale of Cecil Sharp House and the relocation of the HQ & Library. This would allow for a surplus which would be invested as an endowment/trust fund to cover future costs of the Library etc.

In the future, members' subscriptions could then be used to service the members and District funds used to promote 'Folk' in its widest sense.

THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF
FOLK CLUBS

newsletter

*The BEST FOLK
in the NORTH-WEST*

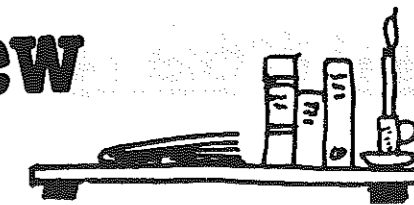
- Articles, Letters, Reviews,
- Songs, Dance, Club Dates.

PUBLISHED: DEC/JAN, FEB/MAR,
APR/MAY, JUN/AUG, SEPT/NOV
COPY DATE: 25th Oct. for Dec/Jan, etc

ADVERTISING RATES: (0942) 58459
Camera Ready £24/A4pg, Other £36/A4pg
(& Pro Rata for 1/2 1/4 & 1/8)

<p>SUBSCRIPTIONS: ADVERTISING (Pre-Paid)</p> <p>£3.25 for 5 issues</p> <p>From: IAN WELLS, 62, SIDNEY AVE. CHEQUES HESKETH BANK, 10, HESSEYSIDE, NWFFC.</p>	<p>EDITORIAL</p> <p>To: NIGEL FIRTH, TEL NO. 118 BOLTON RD. (0942) ASPULL, 833293 WIGAN, LANCs.</p>
--	--

Book Review



'SINCE TIME IMMORAL' -
The Kipper Family Song Book

Edited by Dick Nudds & Chris Sugden
published by EFDSS

Published at last, facsimile copies of the pages from the original Kipper Family song book, complete with tea stains and finger marks! This is thanks largely to the painstaking research, and bribery with pints of Adnams fine ale, by Dick Nudds and Chris Sugden who edit the writings of Henry Kipper's father, Billy now immortalised in print by the EFDSS.

In this fine literary work you will find such gems as 'Dido Fido', a tribute to the fine hunting dogs of yesteryear; 'I wish I was plural no more', a song from the ballad opera 'the Crab wars'; 'Bring us in hot tea', in honour of the country's womens' movements, and the 'Village P.I.M.P.', who prefers to remain anonymous.

However, I think my favourite, being a lover of the game, is 'The Cricket Match' which has so many symbolisms expressed in similar folk songs of courting; the rhyming couplets giving it a special significance.

For those of you who may have more empathy with dance than song, there is a fully notated dance called 'The Dashing White Privates', which will enlarge even a most experienced dancer's repertoire and a few other things as well I shouldn't wonder.

The music is meticulously notated with proper keys and time signatures, and short notes by Sid and Henry Kipper to explain the hysterical significance of the 31 songs herein.

If you have not yet heard the Kipper Family I can only express my surprise, and recommend that you go out and buy their LP's, the latest of which is the 'Crab Wars'. On this LP their fine songs are rendered by such famous folk singers as Martin McCartney, Fairport Detention, Peter Beloney, Mick & Sarah Graves among others, while Henry and Sid explain the story line and give away the plot.

Now, before I finish this review of their excellent book, I must make the point that the recent rumours questioning the authenticity of the Kipper Family are a total scandal. Some people have even gone so far as to suggest that the whole thing is a confidence trick, and even that their home village of Trunch doesn't exist.

Well, I can assure you that the songs featured in this book have been handed down since time immortal. Anyone who can read a map will also find that Trunch is on O.S. Sheet 133 Grid reference 288348 - if you don't believe me then buy the book and the map and prove it for yourself.

Derek Gifford

CHEAPER than QUEEN!

BETTER SOUND THAN MARCEL MARCEAU!!

NEVER BEEN INTERVIEWED BY SIMON JONES!!!

interested?
then why not book

"TONY GIBBONS"

(Bouzouki, Waldzither, Vocals)

&

"CHRIS KELLY"

(Guitar, Bouzouki, Vocals)

For Your Club/Concert/Festival
Music & Song from the British Isles & beyond

CONTACT: TONY (daytime) 051-708-8455

CHRIS (evening) 051-526-6469

"Gibbons und Kelly? Nie davon gehort!!

-Dusseidorf Morgenpost

"Gibbons has probably the finest stamp
collection in the world" - The Philatelist

Rise up, Old Horse, and Shine Again: 4

Fairport Convention: Liege & Lief

Tread carefully, O Critic, for thou art on hallowed ground. For is this not THE album? The one of which they speak? The one which changed life, the universe and everything in it, caused the great schism of 1970, occasional, impassioned letters in the music press on the subject of what is and isn't folk, which in turn begat equally hysterical defences and pleas for open-mindedness? Yes, gentle reader, we seek and we have found the grail.

The grail, as all Arthurian readers know, was possessed of miraculous powers. This one had the power to turn a halfway decent, semi-cultish basically kickass rock band into the doyens of a generation. No mean miracle.

The secret ingredients were Dave Swarbrick, Sandy Denny's folk roots and a motorway crash. In chronological order, Sandy had played folk with and without Straws for years. She had to do the warbling and therefore had a big say in what went repertoire-wise. Dave Swarbrick had been imported to put some fiddle on 'Cajun Woman' during the 'Unhalfbricking' sessions and conned into playing on 'Si Tu Dois Partir' - a throwaway track, still their biggest British hit - and, more importantly, 'Sailor's Life', a traditional track totally at odds with the rest of the album. Critical acclaim of 'Sailor's Life' was vast and the band were clearly at a watershed. On the other hand 'Si Tu Dois Partir' looked like going Top Ten and some touring to help it do that was in order.

On the way back from Brum, the van crashed, killing drummer Martin Lamble and necessitating nearly 18 months off the road. Ime for research into the 'new' music. To recruit a similarly sympathetic drummer (Dave Mattacks). To rehearse intensively. To emerge with a new direction and this album to prove it. Before this Folk/

Incredible String Band. This, right from the opening 'Jigs And Reels' medley, is a horse of a different colour. Dave Mattacks' powerhouse drumming neatly counterpointed by Ashley Hutchings' undemonstrative bass and Simon Nicol's chooglin' rhythm guitar, and, over this foundation, Richard Thompson's fluid guitar and Swarbrick's breakneck fiddling. The mix sounded undeniably right. It moved, swung and, when dear old John Peel slipped it into his Perfumed Garden it lost no points to Led Zeppelin or E.L.P.

Ashley's burrowings at Cecil Sharp House had fired him full of enthusiasm for the grand narrative ballads and it is two of these which form the backbone of this collection. 'Tam Lin', that oldritch tale of evil and magick, burgeoning with the imagery and drama of the medieval mind and 'Matty Groves', wherein every theme from the cuckolded husband to the defiant wife and wronged innocent is given full rein to heighten a gore-sodden yarn. 'Reynardine' also gets an outing and the bands most noble effort in writing within the tradition, Sandy's sublime 'Crazy Man Michael' puts the icing on the cake.

I would guess that this album was folk's point of maximum impact with the non committed audience. Fairport achieved phenomenal popularity on the college circuit, touring incessantly and gaining acres of newsprint in the N.M.E's and Sound's. They appeared on every major music show; Whistle Test; In Concert etc. and featured heavily in the music polls of the time, along with the Santana's and King Crimson's of this world. Don't ask me how that impact managed to get dissipated back to the level we were at pre-Fairport.

This was definitely the classic line up - and lasted only for this album and the ensuing tour. Sandy left to form Fotheringay, Ashley founded Steeleye Span. By '73 Thompson had also departed leaving just Swarb, Nicol, Mattacks and Peggy (Ashley's replacement). They left this album as a tribute to a fusion which wiped clean and drew again the face of Folk.

Bernie Forkin.

LIVE REVIEW: Dick Gaughan/Nick Dow at The Burnley Mechanics

Many Fed Members will know that the Mechanics Institute is now rather a swish Arts Centre. This was the venue chosen by Radio Lancashire for a concert as part of their special folk season. Nick Dow and Dick Gaughan both sang in both halves, and provided an interesting contrast.

Nick has always had a rather quiet style. Indeed, once again his fluent, subtle but unobtrusive guitar accompaniment was in danger of being overlooked. However, he got the plush seated audience singing along, and used an interesting mixture of traditional and contemporary songs. Some newer songs were very like the traditional ones we normally associate with him (Stan Rogers, Dave Goulder) but a sharper edge was there with Pete Morton's 'Just Like John Barleycorn' and Rosselson's 'The World's Police'. Nick's introductions are drily self-deprecatory but the audience response was distinctly enthusiastic.

There's nothing laid back about any part of Dick Gaughan's act. The accompaniment to 'Erin Go Bragh' has more going on than most guitar solos and his commitment both to the music he's playing and to the causes he espouses is never in doubt. It's not all harsh: his rendering of Burns' 'Now Westlin Winds' is extremely lyrical and even his own 'Another Kind of Love Song' makes it's polemical point gently. But if you don't like strong points made strongly, you won't enjoy his aggressive exploitation of his brilliant guitar and vigorous vocal ability. He started his second half with Ed Pickford's 'Worker's Song', which he dedicated to the Silent Night workers who were holding a disco the same night. With that song, and with Sy Kahn's 'It's not just what you're given, it's what you do with what you've got', I felt the ghosts of the founders of the Mechanics' Institute nodding in appreciation.

The audience left no-one in doubt that they wanted an encore, and that was the high spot for me: Jim Brown's 'One Day on the Road', that careful contrast between the beauties of Loch Lomond and the horrors lurking in Holy Loch. This concert will reappear as two of the Radio Lancashire specials on Thursday nights in June (7.00 to 8.00pm). Other artists will include Paul Brady, Isla St Clair, Martyn Wyndham-Read, and Strawhead. Do tune in - you can get Radio Lancashire in many parts of the Fed area. Thanks to Simon Johnson and Steve (On the Wire) Barker for a very enjoyable night.

Ian Wells

22nd-28th August 1987



THE
FRIENDLY FESTIVAL
WITH PLENTY
FOR EVERYONE

Details from:
MALCOLM STOREY,
26 MARINE AVENUE,
NORTH FERRIBY,
EAST YORKSHIRE
HU14 3DR.

PLEASE ENCLOSE S.A.E. WITH ENQUIRY.

19

Wallopers' Weekend of Clog Reviewed

On Saturday 21 February I went to Leyland for the Lancashire Wallopers clogging weekend. I joined the introductory class because although I had done a little clog dancing before, it was a very long time ago.

I was a bit worried at first when I couldn't see anyone else with the brown introductory badge, but when I found the classroom there were already several people there and we soon got chatting, including two ladies from the Argameols Ladies Clog Morris team in Southport.

The class was very mixed, with men, women, and two young girls, and on Sunday morning we were joined by a small boy for a short while.

Our teacher was a member of the Wallopers called David who was extremely patient with us, and we had learnt the first three steps of Sam Sherry's hornpipe routine before the first coffee break which was very welcome. By lunch time we had learnt 3 more steps and were putting it to music. We were now feeling very hot and tired and hoping that we could remember it all at 4.00 when we had our third lesson.

At lunch time I met a third member of Argameols who was in another class so we all had a good break comparing notes of what we had done. At 2.00 we met in the main hall for several very good displays by visiting teams including the Ovaltinies a group of young children who won their group in the Dancing England competitions, a group of young rappers who came third and Toby Bennett, the winner of the individual class with a wonderful clog routine of the well known dance from the film Singing in the Rain.

After the displays and a break for tea, two talks had been arranged, one on clog making and the other by a member of the Newcastle clog team talking about collecting folk dances.

I went to the collection one and found it extremely interesting especially when we were told of one 70 year old lady who stopped dancing at the age of 12 but could still recall the steps bit by bit (and we were worrying about a few hours!)

We were all very disappointed when the bell went for our last session, when we went right through what we had done so far and learnt two new steps which meant that we still had two more to learn on Sunday. On Saturday night there was a ceilidh which I could not attend but I spoke to several people who said they had a wonderful time.

On Sunday we found a note on the blackboard which said "Teacher has lost his voice - Watch and Learn, actions speak louder than words." But we still managed to learn the remaining two steps before the break and amazingly remembered the other eight from the day before. After the break we had our last half hour lesson before putting ourselves on show to the other classes, which was quite an ordeal as we were on first but it all came together quite well and we felt that it had been a wonderful weekend and were very pleased that we had actually learnt a complete clog routine and performed it before a critical audience of dedicated cloggies, including Sam Sherry who we were all very pleased to see looking quite well after a double heart attack at the end of last year.

I would like to express my thanks to Melanie Barber and Alan Whittaker who organised the weekend and to all the teachers and other people who put in such a lot of hard work. I am very much looking forward to going again next year.

Sue Wells

20



DURHAM CITY FOLK FESTIVAL

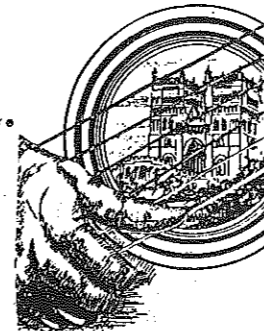
7th, 8th & 9th AUGUST 1987
WEEKEND TICKETS £10 until 1st JULY
THEREAFTER £13

DICK GAUGHAN . THE KIPPER FAMILY . THE McCALHANS
JEZ LOWE & JAKE WALTON . DEREK BRINSTONE . SILEAS
TONIGHT AT NOON . JIM SHARP . THE WILSON FAMILY
CATSTYCAM . ANONYMA . STEVE TURNER . DURHAM RAMS
THE TRIMDON FOLK BAND . BENNY GRAHAM . MAD MONK
STANLEY ACCRINGTON & THE THIRD DIVISION NORTH
MRS. CLEMENTS' SECRET RECIPE . HART & HOUND MORRIS
HEXHAM MORRIS . RYDER-MCCULLOCH-RYDER

Special Events
THE NORTHERN COUNTIES CLOG-DANCING CHAMPIONSHIPS
THE EVER-DECREASING CIRCLE
JOHN BARLEYCORN

Weekend Ticket Price Not Increased
Main Events in Durham Town Hall
& Durham Sixth Form Centre Theatre
Day, Event and Family Tickets
12 to 15 years Half Price Playgroup
Campsite with Food Children's Events

TICKETS FROM MIKE AND JEAN LONGSTAFF
19 FRONT STREET, PITY ME, DURHAM. Tel: (0385)44445
Festival Secretary: Ian McCulloch, 8 Cedar Close
Gilespie Moor, Durham



POYNTON FOLK CENTRE

Enjoy leading National and International
FOLK ENTERTAINERS on SUNDAYS
open 7 p.m. for 8 p.m. (around £1).

Also

Sing-A-Longs with *Rick Harrup*
Mondays at 8.30 p.m. (Free)

Sing-A-Longs with *Arthur Wakfield*
Thursdays at 8.30 p.m.

plus Regular Saturday Hoe-Downs

(Voted the top Folk Club in the Land - MM Poll)

Riddles and Boddy's
and a dozen other ales

ALL AT PARK LANE, POYNTON,
(between Macclesfield & Poynton)

Tel: 878855 or 872826

Albion Folk Night

SUNDAYS 8.30 pm

REAL ALE/BAR FOOD

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| April | 5 | SINGERS |
| | 12 | CATHY FINK (from the USA)
(all American banjo champion)
& MARCY MARXER |
| | 19 | SINGERS |
| | 26 | CAPERCAILLIE (from Scotland)
(one of the most exciting trad.
bands for many years) |
| May | 3 | SINGERS |
| | 10 | EDDIE MORRIS |
| | 17 | SINGERS |
| | 24 | DOUGIE MACLEAN |
| | 31 | PAUL METZERS |

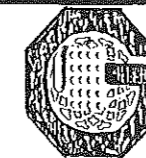
TUESDAY SPECIALS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| May | 5 | ANDY IRVINE |
| | 19 | KATHRYN TICKELL
(virtuoso of Northumbrian Pipes) |

ALBION HOTEL, ALBION STREET, NEW BRIGHTON,
WIRRAL.

TICKETS & INFO 051 639 1832

RESIDENTS - TINLANTIN plus
GEORGE & GILL PECKHAM



LASGOW FOLK FESTIVAL

6 - 12 JULY 1987

A FEAST OF FOLK SONG
MUSIC AND DANCE FROM
HOME AND ABROAD

Concerts Ceilidhs
Workshops
Dance Displays

Weekend Camping Facilities

Enquiries: SAE to
8 Westercraigs
Dennistoun
Glasgow
G31 2HZ

Subsidised by the Scottish Arts Council

21

RECORD REVIEWS

VARIOUS ARTISTS

"Where Would You Rather Be Tonight?"
Sunrise A40111M

This is basically a charity record in aid of Broadreach House, a rehabilitation centre for drug addicts and alcoholics based in Plymouth. For that reason alone it's worth buying. The fourteen tracks provide something for everyone, except perhaps the die-hard traditionalist who won't accept that Steeleye Span really do play traditional songs - "The Weaver and the Factory Maid" on this album.

There are lots of well known names on this including Jake Thackray, Arizona Smoke Review and Allan Taylor who sings a self-penned song about a heroin addict called "Jimmy's Song". All the artists gave their services free as did the extensive production team from Sunrise Records.

Some interesting partnerships are also formed including Phil Beer and Mike Oldfield who render "Passed You By", Jon Benns with Fairport Convention and Wurzel who do a marvellous send up of "Johnnie Be Good" with their parody "Quazi(modern) Be Good". Martin Simpson and Jessica Radcliffe have so completely re-arranged "Black is the Colour" that it is unrecognisable as the song I remember Hamish Imlach recording many, many years ago - having said that it is a strange and compelling sound that they have produced, as long as you forget the original.

JAKE THACKRAY



Variety and comedy is provided by Les Barker and Shep Woolley, both recorded on live gigs, and both performing Barker's poems. Shep does an impeccably timed version of "The Nelson Monologue" while Les recites "When Dracula Went to the Blood Bank" which is not one of his best, but still amusing.

Two other notables are Paul Metsers' "Fast Lane Down" and Mike Silver singing the title track "Where Would You Rather Be Tonight?" - with a varied album like this, quite happy to sit by the woodburner writing this review, thank you!

Derek Gifford

folk BIZZ

Folk topics and news
from Greater Manchester and Cheshire

EDITOR: Milly Chadband
62 Ridge Crescent, Hawk Green,
Marple, Stockport SK6 7JA
Tel: 061 427 4430



RECORDREVIEWSRECORDREVIEWSRECOR

Sheena Wellington: Kerelaw

Dunkeld DUN 005

Hamish Moore: Cauld Wind Pipes

Dunkeld DUN 003

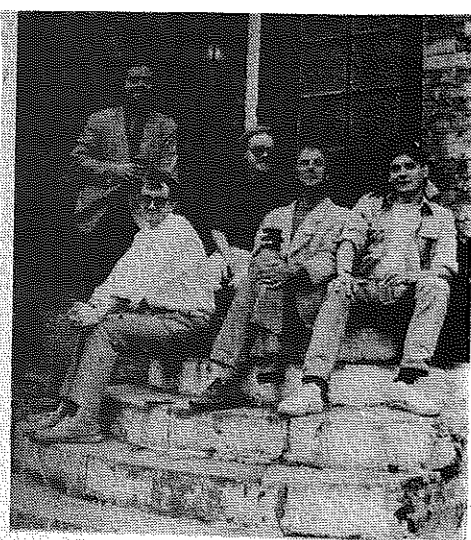
When Simon Jones asked me to review fairly traditional records for his First Hearing magazine, I didn't anticipate the unalloyed pleasure that would come with the first batch of three. One was Brian Peters' new album, which has already received its well deserved rave in these pages. The others were these two from Dougie Maclean's Dunkeld label, and are graced by his skills as fiddler as well as producer.

Both records have cover paintings by Jennifer Maclean, and I'm afraid the only possible criticism of Kerelaw is her abstract of the same name. Ignore it, and get the record onto your turntable as fast as possible. Sheena has a superb voice, mature musicality, and excellent phrasing. The songs are a well chosen mixture of traditional and contemporary, with sensitive and subtle accompaniment. If you don't believe me, just play side 1, track 5, Andy Barnes' 'The Last Leviathan': note her phrasing, how she points up the lyric by restraint, not over-reaction, and how the minimal accompaniment is precisely right.

If you go to any Scottish festivals this year, please ask around as I know one club organiser who would love to arrange a tour. If I went on I would run out of superlatives, so take down Roget's Thesaurus, turn to entry 483, and read out the paragraph starting with 'super-excellence'.

The first bars of Hamish Moore's Cauld Wind Pipes transported me at once to the Inverarnan House Hotel. Once more I could smell the peat fires and the drying boots, taste the venison broth and the malts, hear the weary tales of our fellow West Highland Way walkers. The background music there wasn't the top ten, not even Big Country, but bagpipes at a volume suitable for a room. Of course, they were the Highland, the mouthblown or warm pipes, but this record is of the chamber sized cold, bellows blown, Scots pipes. It features authentic versions of the Lowland, the Pastoral, and the Small pipes.

The insert tells how Hamish Moore dug up (literally in one case) these designs, and relates them to the Border/Northumberland pipes and the Uilleann pipes. The information



22 FAIRPORT CONVENTION

WORKSHOPS SINGAROUNDS
FREE CAMPING DANCE TEAMS

CLEETHORPES FOLK FESTIVAL '87

HOME SERVICE
GAS MARK V
TIGER MOTH
SHAGPIE, TONY ROSE
WILSONS, LES BARKER
HOBSON & LEES, BRIAN COOKMAN, AMOS & ROCKS, DEREK GIFFORD & MORE!

BALHAM ALLIGATORS
ROY BAILEY
MC CALMANS
SARA GREY & ELLIE ELLS
EDDIE UPTON, ROBIN GARSIDE

22, 23, 24, 25 MAY 1987

SEASON TICKETS £14.00 (£16.00 AFTER APRIL 1ST)
TICKETS + INFO: KATH COMPTON, 66 POPLAR RD, CLEETHORPES DN35 8BQ
TEL (0472) 698 750 or (0472) 47124

MUSICIANS
(male & female)
NEEDED
URGENTLY

ALSO DANCERS
QUEENS HEAD
LADIES MORRIS
BURNLEY

Telephone:

Sue: Accrington 383406

Arthur: Padiham 75884

on this would be a gift to a reviewer with fewer scruples and more space than I have. The tunes are a splendid mixture of traditional and modern, played faultlessly in so far as a mere Sassanach can tell. This record changes my image of Scottish piping - it's positively restful! If these are typical of the Dunkeld output, I definitely look forward to hearing more.

Ian Wells

MALICORNE

"Les Cathedrales De L'Industrie"
Celluloid CEL 6702

Do you ever get the feeling all these reunions have gone too far? I mean at times it's like yesterday has caught up with today. Well here's a reformation for which I'm going to make an exception on Malicorne; the finest folk rock band the French ever produced. Indeed the only one of any consequence. After a string of fine albums they called it a day in the late 70s and husband/wife duo Gabriel and Marie Yacoub (a French Richard and Linda Thompson) seemed to have vanished. Gabriel reissued a solo album on the American Green Linnet label, but besides that all was quiet.

Upon passing through France a couple of weeks back this album jumped out of local racks and into my duty free bag.

Recorded late last year by a new five piece Malicorne based again around the Yacoub, it represents a shift which was taking place in the band before they packed up. That is the way they're integrating the French traditional into modern settings. All this album is contemporary, it sounds like Kraftwerk meeting the Police yet has folkie characters in melody, structure, vocals and use of ethnic instruments. As a comeback album it ranks as one of the best, and certainly has shot straight to the top of the Jones playlist. Side one being an utter gem, not a duff note, all closing on a synthesised version of the "Lyke Wake Dirge" credited as coming from the Young Tradition.

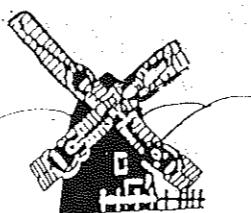
Malicorne's haunting mediaeval rock deserves to be a force to be reckoned with. Welcome back mes amis.

A BOGNOR REGIS CENTRE/FOLK ON THE COAST PRESENTATION
SOUTH DOWNS FOLK FESTIVAL

3 - 5 JULY 1987

DICK GAUGHAN
THE EASY CLUB
THE OYSTER BAND
THE KIPPER FAMILY
DAVE SWARBRICK'S
WHIPPERSNAPPER
THE GORDON GILTRAP BAND
CROWS

SPRING CHICKENS
SCOTCH MEASURE
JAKE WALTON & JAZZ LOWE
TIM LAYCOCK
THE NEW TRUNCH CORONATION BAND with Roger Watson
SLIM PANATELLA & THE MELLOW VIRGINANS
EAVESDROPPER
MARTYN WYNDHAM READ
JIM COUZA
THE 'AMAZING' MR SMITH
Cruzheen
Joe Stead
Wild Oats
Reunion
Jon Sharpe & Tim Walker
Upmarket
Julie Ellison
Machine Without Horses
The Blue Rinse Mountain Boys
Ticklish Allsorts
Dr Sunshine



Martlet Sward & Morris Men
Broadwood Morris Men
Brighton Morris Men
Knockhundred Shuttles
Royal George
Mary Rose
Woodfildley
Miz Maze
Chichester Folk Dance Group
Shoreham Folk Dance Group
plus many more

Concerts, Ceilidhs
Displays, Singarounds
Music Sessions, Workshops
Festival Folk Club
Children's Events
Craft Foyers
Camping
Transport from Compsite
Real Ale & Food

ALL DAY LICENCE APPLIED FOR

WEEKEND TICKETS £14 (£12 before June 1st)

DAY TICKETS £8

Children: 10 to 16 yrs - Half Price/Under 10 yrs - Free
Session Tickets Available 'Discounts for ScoFF Members, UB40, OAP'S & Students

Ticket Sales
Before June 1st - Pauline Nash, 39 Glamis Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex (S.A.E.'s) Tel: 0243 820187
After June 1st - The Bognor Regis Centre, The Esplanade, Bognor Regis, West Sussex Tel: 0243 865551
General Enquiries: Chalky Corkrey, 6 Carousel Court, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO 22 9NB Tel: 0243 830289



BRITISH Bluegrass news

for news of tours, etc - what's on
- record reviews - features.

Available by subscription
(£2.50 for 4 issues) from:
10 Bishops Wood,
Woking,
Surrey GU21 3QA.

MICHELLE SHOCKED

"The Texas Campfire Tapes"
Cooking Vinyl COOK 02

Michelle Shocked has been on The Tube, Whistle Test and on the radio. She is from Glimmer, Texas, writes songs and sings like Woody Guthrie. She has even been in the N.M.E. and now in the Fed. Magazine.

Last Summer, she sat down with Pete Lawrence from Cooking Vinyl and poured out all her songs into his Portable Tape Recorder. The result, complete with the rumble of passing traffic and crickets chirping is now available as the Campfire Tapes, an apt title if ever there was one. It is a fascinating document, as raw and as live as they come.

You'll find Andy Kershaw plays a lot of her music on his Radio One show. You should own a copy too. World weary, waif like and fragile she may seem, but the girl's music is as big as the open road.

Simon Jones

Folk In Hell: Gone To Earth: Probe 6

They don't play many folk clubs, indeed I know a few who reckon they don't play folk music, yet this album goes straight in at No.6 in the Folk Roots Charts. HMMMMM.

So, what are they? Well...I reckon they're a pretty potent mix. Lots of spiky guitar work with some Thompsonesque echoes, no shortage of manic fiddling and hectic mandolining and some neat little songs full of the political self confidence of youth (before black and white merge into grey).

I loved "Guns Of Love" and the psychotic "Lubyanka Stomp", took a rain check on "No Work Today" and hated "Rendezvous". The last two tracks are recorded live and show a band hot as a fire cracker with "Johnny Stopped The Tide" being the star turn. Altogether a pretty fair debut, John.

They're pretty useful this lot and they're taking folk to places usually starved of it. Catch 'em if you see the name locally - I intend to give Eagle and Child goes the opportunity before the year is out.

Bernie Forkin.

Home & Away: Gregson & Collister..

Some 18 months ago, Mr. Gregson rang me up looking for a club gig. I would be lying if I pretended I leapt at the chance. I hummed and hawed before finally admitting I'd never heard of him. Or His partner. Any Trouble entered the conversation at this point and the light began to dawn. The second Stiff Tour. Wreckless Eric. Tenpole Tudor. A great night of which Any Trouble were the best bit. I promised to ring back.

Three weeks later, at Porkies Club, Me and the other 3 Hoppies sat defenceless while Clive & Chris did a floor spot which we had to follow. I stopped humming and booked them.

They filled the club, with people and some excellent music. That was March '86. In Dec. '86, I was asked by the local arts outfit (Fringe) to put a folk event into a weekend of multi-media mayhem. I picked Clive and Chris and, on that night, they had to follow the local rock hero's. They totally burned 'em off and folk carried the day. Since then I've seen them with Richard and on "Last Resort" and realised that they have talent to burn and are going to be mega-big 'ere long.

This album is culled from this past year or so's gigs, and is one of the finest albums of it's genre I've ever heard. It lasts over an hour. There are 15 tracks, all of which are excellent, and I'd have a hard time if asked to select only 2 for a potential hit single.

I've had harsh things to say in the past about 'contemporary' song-writers, whose ego's dwarf their talent, but an album like this goes a long way to redressing the balance. Not so much contemporary as state of the art. Folk's lucky to have them and, excuse me, 'cos I need another fix.

Bernie Forkin.

Angry Love: Rory McLeod

Seeing that my politics tend to the bluish rather than the scarlet, I reckoned that I was bound to be pretty unimpressed with an album featuring titles like "Farewell Welfare" and "Stop The Apartheid Fascists" - the latter sounding like the kind of thing Ben Elton might dream up for Rik Mayall to sing.

I couldn't have been more wrong. This bloke is superb. He sounds like a cross between Chas & Dave, and Ian Dury singing with some cookin' little blues band of 65/66 Marquee vintage. He's as witty as they come and the whole thing has got a terrific, good-timey, lazy feel that's just plain great.

Don't get me wrong - the message is still there, strong and undiluted, and there's a whole battalion of self-righteous, whingeing, pseudo-songsmiths out there who should buy it and painlessly absorb a few lessons on how to get their message across without resorting to hyperbole and the Big Boys Book of Well Thumbed Cliches.

This is the most creative use of vinyl I've heard for ages and if a card carrying Tory like moi can get a buzz out of it then there's absolutely no excuse for more socialistically inclined folk not to buy it by the van-load.

Bernie Forkin.



every Wednesday, 9-00pm

Wrea Green Institute

Station Rd. Wrea Green, Kirkham, Lancs.

tel. 0772-682118 / 684537

- Apr. 1st - Singers' night
- 8th - Hobson & Lees
- 15th - Tonight At Noon
- 22nd - Pete Morton
- 29th - The Knowe O'Deill
- May 6th - Easy Club
- 13th - Roger Westbrook
- 20th - Johnny Coppin
- 27th - Singers' night
- June 3rd - Jim Couza

Why not **SUBSCRIBE**

TO THE NEWSLETTER TO BE SURE OF A REGULAR COPY ?

To subscribe, please send the form below with your remittance to the address shown. (If you prefer not to cut your copy, send details on plain paper)

Please send me a copy of the Newsletter each time it is published ; I have enclosed a cheque for £3-25, made payable to N.W.F.F.C.

I understand this covers 5 issues over a one-year period.

Name Send your form & remittance to :

Address Newsletter Subs.,

..... 62, Sidney Ave,

..... Hesketh Bank,

..... Merseyside.

OFFICER	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Chair	Ian Wells	62, Sidney Avenue, Hesketh Bank	0774 73 3267
Treasurer	Kath Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	0942 58459
Editor	Nigel Firth	118, Bolton Rd., Aspull, Wigan	0942 833293
Assistant Editor	Bernie Forkin	38, Bramcote Avenue, Islands Brow, St. Helens	0744 53058
Publicity	Ian Wells	62, Sidney Avenue, Hesketh Bank	0774 73 3267
Advertising	Paul Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	0942 58459
Dates	Phil Capper	4, Friary Close, Kirkham, Preston	0772 684537

THE AIMS OF THE FEDERATION SHALL BE

the promotion of Folk Music in the North-West by:-

1. The "block-booking" of artists for tours.
2. Joint publicity of the member clubs.
3. The general support of the member clubs.
4. Joint organisation of concerts and ceilidhs in the area.
5. The support of festival organisers within the area.
6. The organisation of events to attract the "under 18s".

The Member Clubs

Day	Club Name	Address	Contact	Telephone
Sunday	CROWN	The Crown, Conway St., Birkenhead	Phil Hare	051 342 4145
	BOHRY	Blundell Arms, Upper Aughton St., Birkdale, Southport	Clive Pownceby	051 924 5078
	EAGLE & CHILD	Eagle & Child, Main St., Billinge, nr. Wigan	Bernie Forkin	0744 53058
	LEIGH	Oddfellows Arms, Twiss Lane, Leigh	Steve Eckersley	0942 677955
	POYNTON	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
	RAVE ON	Grosvenor Rowing Club, The Groves, Chester	Nick Mitchell	0244 315094
	WIDNES (ST. MARIE'S)	St. Marie's Am. R.L. Club, Brentfields, Widnes	Patrick Lindley	051 423 3775
	LLANDUDNO	The London Hotel, Upper Mostyn St., Llandudno	Arthur Bowman	0492 622049
	ROCHDALE HERITAGE	The Spread Eagle Hotel, Cheetham St., Rochdale	Elisabeth Andrews	0706 55122
	ASHTON	P & M Squash Centre, Liverpool Rd., Ashton-in-Makerfield	Joan Blackburn	0942 321223
Monday	HORWICH	Crown Hotel, Horwich	Joyce Riding	0257 792304
	PRESTON	Lamb Hotel, Church St., Preston	Hugh O'Donnell	0772 745498
	POYNTON	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
	BREWERY	Brewery Arts Centre, 122a, Highgate, Kendal	Bill Lloyd	0539 25133
	TRITON	The Triton, Paradise St., Liverpool	Maisie Potts	051 920 4129
Tuesday	MAWDESLEY	Black Bull, Mawdesley	Derek Gifford	0704 822574
	HINDLEY	Worthington Arms, Market St., Hindley	Kath Holden	0942 58459
	MAGHULL	Hare & Hounds, Maghull	Dave Day	051 526 6661
	BLACKPOOL	Empress Hotel, Exchange St., Blackpool	Mick Read	no phone no.
Wednesday	WHITEHAVEN	Rosehill Theatre Bar, Moorsby, Whitehaven	c/o/theatre	0900 2422
	HOW CROFT	How Croft, off St. George's Rd., Bolton	John Cole	0204 33209
	FOLK AT THE TUTE	Wrea Green Institute, Station Rd., Wrea Green, Kirkham	Phil Capper	0772 684537
	WHITE SWAN	White Swan, Green St., Fallowfield, Manchester	Anne Morris	061 881 8294
	FOLK AT THE NEST	The Allison Arms, Coppull	Steve Chatterley	0257-481643 9 8 67654
Thursday	DARWEN	The Crown, Redearth Rd., Darwen	Joan Molloy	0706 220611
	POYNTON	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
	WIGAN	White Horse, Standishgate, Wigan	Joan Blackburn	0942 321223
	MAGAZINE	Magazine Hotel, Magazine Lane, Wallasey	Jack Courtts	051 220 0152
	BURNLEY	Talbot Hotel, Church St., Burnley	Joan McEvoy	0282 38199
Friday	BEA	Bee Hotel, Bodfer St., Rhyl	Dave Costello	0745 32488
	POTTERIES	Crown & Anchor, Tower Sq., Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent	Jason Hill	0782 813401
	NORTHWICH	Harlequin Theatre, Queen St., Northwich	Sean Boyle	0606 44361
	PORKIES	Lady Brooke Hotel, Fir Rd., Bramhall, Cheshire	Judy Aucutt	02605 2633
	CUT ABOVE	Tom Rolt Centre, Boat Museum, Dock Rd., Ellesmere Port	Jon Ford	
	BLACKBURN	Mill Hill Hotel, Bridge St., Blackburn	Ron Crane	0254 40347
Saturday	BURY	The Napier, Bolton St., Bury	Jean Seymour	061 761 1544
	BREWERY	Brewery Arts Centre, 122a, Highgate, Kendal	Bill Lloyd	0539 25133
	SOUTHPORT	Southport Arts Centre, Lord St., Southport	Neil Johnstone	0704 40004
	POYNTON	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521

